GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2005
EXPLORATION OF COAL BY PRIVATE PLAYERS
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Mohite Shri Subodh;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether private sector companies/MNC have requested the Government for exploration of the coal in the country specially in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the companies given permission and pending for permission;

(c) the reasons for not giving them permission;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the pending applications in this regard;

(e) whether the Government is considering to set up a regulatory authority for the country`s coal sector;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO):

(a) No formal request has been received in this Ministry from private sector companies/MNC for exploration of the coal in thecountry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of answer given to part (a) of the question.

(e) to (g) The Expert Committee set up by Government for the coal sector is inter-alia examining the need to set up a regulatory authority for coal. Decision in the matter wouid be taken after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Expert Committee at the appropriate time.